

MANCHESTER TOWNSHIP ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION

Tuesday, April 28, 2026

Manchester Township Municipal Building
1 Colonial Drive, Manchester Township, NJ

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

Commissioner Tedeschi called the Regular Meeting of the Manchester Township Environmental Commission to order with the following statement: "Adequate notice of this meeting has been given in accordance with Open Public Meetings Act. Public Law 1975, Chapter 231. Said notice was advertised in the Asbury Park Press and the Star Ledger."

Time: 6:00 PM

This was followed with the Salute to the Flag.

ROLL CALL:

Dominick Tedeschi	Present
Sandra Drake	Absent
John Franolich	Present
Jim Gravatt	Absent
Anthony Nasta	Present

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Motion to carry the March 24, 2026 Meeting Minutes

Mr. Nasta made a motion to carry the March 24, 2026, Regular Meeting Minutes, seconded by Mr. Franolich.

Roll call vote:

Mr. Tedeschi-Yes
Ms. Drake- Absent
John Franolich-Yes
Mr. Gravatt -Absent
Mr. Nasta -Yes
Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS:

Green Fair 2026

Ms. Kisty explained that the Township was struggling with putting together vendors for the Green Fair. Mr. Tedeschi asked the public for suggestions.

Mr. Tom Leonard suggested to try and reach out directly to Tesla, to Constellation which is a third party energy company, and to reach out to the Waste Disposal Companies that service the Township.

The Commission would like to put the topic on hold for the May meeting.

Ms. Kisty announced that there will be no Green Fair on May 20th and they will try and possibly reschedule it.

OLD BUSINESS

Annual Report 2025

The Commissioners talked about their report that they did on the Ocean Pond Realty Subdivision, the Award Ceremony for the Art Contest, the review of the Manchester Gardens Environmental Impact Statement, the Clean-up they did, the certification for the bath house, the green fair, the solar field application review and the stormwater runoff work with Public Works.

Discussion of the Tree Ordinance

Mr. Tedeschi went over the proposed ordinance. He read much of the memo he prepared for the Commissioners' review.

He asked Ms. Kisty if we had a tree fund and Ms. Kisty said that she did not know but that she would look into it.

Mr. Tedeschi continued to read his report.

Ms. Kisty explained the DBH predicament that they have at Townhall in the building department and she explained the definition of the "wood for wood" concept.

Mr. Tedeschi continued to read his report.

Mr. Franolich stated that if you take a tree out and replace it you do not necessarily need to make wood for wood.

The Commissioners feel there should be a tree fund, they want to see the exemption removed and they would like to see the fees changed.

Discussion of Water Quality in Manchester

Mr. Tedeschi explained the distinctions between the Eastern and Western systems in Manchester. He said that the east serves the larger part of the population. He read his review of the water quality. He suggests that they begin with the LSL (Lead Service Line) because it is mandatory. He thinks they should launch a beyond compliance initiative because it gives the residents clarity. He would like both systems resampled before spending money on remedies, and he thinks that they need to do better on their paper systems. He said that they are all on the same side and they will work hard to make sure that happens.

Mr. Foor spoke about the remediation efforts of the super fund site on the base. He said that it was a very active program, and he believes it still is.

Mr. Tedeschi explained that it is very expensive to remediate environmental damage.

MEMBER REPORT:

None

PUBLIC COMMENT

Tom Leanoard asked about tree clearing permits. Ms. Kisty explained the process in the zoning department. Mr. Leonard suggested getting involvement from the NJ State Tree Farm in Jackson.

No further public comment. Mr. Tedeschi closed the public portion.

Mr. Franolich said that he is concerned about the spotted lantern flies. Mr. Nasta said that trees have to come down and be horizontal. Laurel trees are also dying. They are being forced to hold off on controlled burning because they said it is killing the bats.

Ms. Kisty explained how they can put projects together. They would need to put a plan together, pitch it to environmental groups for funding and apply for grants.

Mr. Nasta spoke about water levels on the ponds and lakes in Manchester.

.ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business, on motion by Mr. Nasta and seconded by Mr. Franolich, the meeting was adjourned at 7:07 p.m.

All in favor, motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Amanda Kisty
Commission Secretary